



**September 24, 2003**  
**Conservation Commission**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes**

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**Meeting opened** at Tufts Administration Building (TAB), 167 Holland Street (in larger meeting room of Senior Center, second floor, Rm. 200) at 7:05 pm.

Present were: Conservation Commission (CC) members John Reinhardt, Cassandra Koutalidis, Janet McGowan, Chair, Delia Kaye, Associate Kim Stollar, and Agent Anne Phelps. Also present was Joseph Lambert, Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP).

Introductions were made.

Review Minutes

Minutes from July 23, 2003, were reviewed. Discussion followed.

**Vote: Motion made by DK to accept minutes as amended. JM seconded. All in favor.**

**Budget**

Anne reported on the CC operating budget and the revolving fund budgets (budgets in office files). Anne has spent all of her funds for office supplies, and may need to ask to increase that budget line.

**Administration**

The next meeting will be rescheduled from October 23 to October 29, provided all CC members present can attend.

**New Business**

SCAT Video – Cassandra

CK reported on her discussion with SCAT director Eleanor Pye. CK said SCAT will make a 28-min. video plus air a 30 sec. Public service announcement for the price of \$395. It was agreed to form a Video sub-committee consisting of Delia, Cassandra and Lisa(?).

**Vote: CK moved to encumber \$395 from the Wetlands Revolving Fund to pay for a SCAT-produced video. DK seconded. All in favor.**

### Annual Report

Anne reported that John Long, director of the city clerk's office had requested Annual Reports from all departments for FY 2002 and FY 2003. Anne has written executive summaries to submit and asked CC members to provide feedback.

### MRCCA Invitation to Meet w/other CCs

The CC agent's group that Anne helped form (Metro Region Conservation Commission Agents) is trying to organize a social meeting for regional CC members. Medford will host the function, scheduled for November 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-9:30 pm. Three CC members said they were interested and would plan to attend (DK, CK, JR).

Pay as You Throw – Joseph Lambert, MA Recycling Agent, working for MA DEP, spoke regarding Pay as you Throw Programs in various municipalities, and about various ways the program can be implemented.

Joseph said, generally a municipality pays a fixed amount to get the garbage trucks and recycling trucks going down the street. Assume the city is paying for "X" tons of trash plus recycling. Seniors have less trash, as do avid recyclers, so they subsidize the cost for people that have more trash. Under "Pay as you Throw," each household would get a set amount (one 30-gallon can, for example) free, and pay for any amount over that. Thus, the less trash you throw away, the less you pay.

Joseph said that the plan needs a "champion" to get started. If the cost of trash pick-up is just wrapped into the city budget, it needs to be removed so that residents can see exactly what is paid for this service. An Enterprise account might be established, instead, to hold fees collected for trash pick-up and removal. The Board of Aldermen would have to approve how the funds can be spent.

Joseph said "Pay as you Throw" could be applied selectively, for example to apartment buildings, businesses, or for yard waste.

The Commission is taking this issue under consideration.

### Change to the water quality classification on the Alewife and upper Mystic River

JR gave a briefing on DEP's proposal to change the water classification of Alewife Brook and the upper Mystic River. He then volunteered to draft a comment letter from the Commission to DEP regarding the proposed change. The CC will review the letter at the next meeting and decide whether to support it or not.

### **Old Business**

Coastsweep – Anne reported an excellent turn-out for the clean-up, and removal of 8 shopping carts, 2 car batteries, a couple of old tires, a gasoline can, about 50 bags of trash, and 17 bags of recyclables.

MDC – Anne reported that the Dilboy site (Tennis court and Basketball court resurfacing) restoration still has not begun. Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR, formerly MDC) is writing a new contract (the original is about to expire). Mark MacLean has filed the OOC with the Registry of Deeds, and will file a Request for Certificate of Compliance after the area is re-seeded and inspected

319 Grant – Anne reported that Green has just finished the design for the Best Management Plan (BMP). The original design by Green was modified at the request of Department of Public Works (DPW) to remove a pump and rely solely on gravity-flow. The final design will require the use of special sampling containers (bailers) to access the storm water in test wells.

### **Committees**

Durrell – Anne said they are still having trouble finding someone to do the preparation work for the asphalt.

Quincy - Janet said she the lot still needs water. CK has said she will do a drawing/design, using the work at Durrell for a model.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Phelps, Agent